



A Bright Look Ahead™

The Update

Serving Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Montgomery, Page,
Pottawattamie, and Shelby Counties

SWIPCO · Southwest Iowa Planning Council-Region XIII

July 2011

ADDITIONAL CDBG HOUSING AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Two communities in southwest Iowa were recently awarded additional Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation awards.

The City of Atlantic was awarded \$484,500 for the rehabilitation of 13 homes; while the City of Sidney will receive \$308,000 for the rehabilitation of eight homes.

These awards join three

CDBG's awarded in April to the Cities of Harlan, Logan, and Shenandoah.

Southwest Iowa housing awards total \$1,921,500 of the \$10.2 million allocated to the entire state of Iowa for housing rehabilitation through the CDBG program.

These programs will fully rehabilitate owner-occupied, low-to-moderate income houses within targeted areas of the communities. A

maximum of \$24,999 can be used to rehabilitate each home, excluding costs of lead based paint hazard reduction.

If your city is interested in applying for a Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation this year, please contact Jeremy Middents at 1-866-279-4720 or jeremy.middents@swipco.org.

ADDITIONAL WATER/SEWER CDBG'S ANNOUNCED

The City of Essex sewer project, initially declined for a Community Development Block Grant, has now been awarded \$287,000. The estimated total project cost is \$482,625 and relines, or replaces, approximately 3,200 feet of sewer line. Part of that includes a section that runs underneath the railroad, and was found to have substantial problems with water entering the sewer lines during a power outage at the lift station.

Essex joins Mondamin and Cumberland with CDBG water/sewer projects that were funded by the CDBG program in 2011/2012 and will be administered by SWIPCO. Cumberland and Mondamin were funded in April. Initially the Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) issued a conservative estimate of new

CDBG funds for the state based on potential cuts by the Federal Government. Once the budget was passed, the state awarded additional projects, such as Essex, that were initially declined.

Now is the time to consider any potential CDBG projects your city may have for the FY 2013 applications in November. SWIPCO projects consistently have higher grant-to-loan ratios than projects administered by private firms; and our administrative fees are very affordable as well as only paid if grant funds are awarded. If you city has a project, contact John McCurdy or Courtney Harter at 712-243-4196 to discuss how SWIPCO can assist with your application process, including income surveys, engineering procurement, and writing the applica-

SWITA DRIVERS RECOGNIZED BY IPTA

Two drivers for Southwest Iowa Transit Agency were given recognition at the state Iowa Public Transit Association's yearly award ceremony.

Bill Reichart of Council Bluffs was recognized as SWITA's driver of the year and as a nominee for the IPTA Driver of the Year.

Virgil Koontz of Atlantic represented SWITA in the Road-éo competition held in Milford. He competed against other drivers from all over Iowa in a variety of driving skills on an enclosed obstacle course. He finished in the top 10 for the small bus division.

RLF FUNDED BUSINESS HOLDS GRAND RE-OPENING



MJ's Grocery held their grand reopening Saturday July 9 in Griswold.

The grocery, formerly Eckle's Grocery Store in Griswold, was bought by Martha Hardy in April with funds she received through Southwest Iowa Planning Council's Business Revolving Loan Fund.

To date the RLF has awarded \$434,000 to southwest Iowa businesses. \$171,000 remains in the fund and is available to new and existing businesses.

For more information on SWIPCO's business revolving loan fund please contact Courtney Harter at 1-866-279-4720 or courtney.harter@swipco.org.

SWIPCO ACTIVELY PREPARES FOR FLOOD RECOVERY

SWIPCO staff are monitoring the flooding situation along the Missouri River and are proactively working with local, state, and federal officials on preparations for flood recovery.

SWIPCO staff and Iowa Department of Economic Development Executive Director Debi Durham are discussing plans for quick implementation of

any disaster related CDBG funds that may become available and utilizing lessons learned by both agencies in the aftermath of the Floods of 2008. FEMA officials have begun their damage assessments of the flood impacted area, and the situation will be monitored throughout the summer with high water anticipated to last into the fall.

IFA LOCAL HOUSING TRUST FUND APPLICATION

Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund is applying for a grant from the Local Housing Trust Fund to develop a Housing Assistance Plan (HAP).

The Housing Assistance Plan would determine housing needs around southwest Iowa.

Previous Local Housing Trust Fund funded projects include Owner-Occupied Repair, Purchase/Rehab/Resell,

Homeownership Assistance, Lead Based Pain Stabilization, and Demolition.

The SWIHTF board will review the HAP and Local Housing Trust Fund application at their August board meeting. If you have any questions about the HAP or Local Housing Trust Fund, please contact Jeremy Middents at 1-866-279-4720 or jeremy.middents@swipco.org.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

| Grant | Next Deadline | Grant | Next Deadline |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy | On- Going | Safe Routes To School | October 1, 2011 |
| IFA Project Based Housing | On-Going | Statewide Transportation Enhancements | October 1, 2011 |
| Hazard Mitigation Grant Program | On-Going | Peter Kiewit Foundation (Quarterly) | October 15, 2011 |
| Economic Development Set Aside | Last Monday of Each Month | CDBG Housing & Water/Sewer | November 2011 |
| Federal Recreational Trails | October 1, 2011 | CDBG Community Facilities | December 2011 |

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Clarinda-July 15:** Rumbles Street Dance. Burgers, hot dogs, and ice cold beverages will be sold. 8 p.m. to midnight on the south side of the square.
- **Minden- July 15-16:** Minden Fun Days. Street Dance for teens on Friday and a parade on Saturday, as well as food and family fun.
- **Atlantic-July 16:** Crazy Daze Sales. Great Deals at participating businesses throughout the community!
- **Red Oak-July 19-24:** Montgomery County Fair. Events include livestock shows, queen contest, Water fights, carnival, fashion fair, bingo, hypnotist, magician, chain saw artist, horse fun night, ATV horseshoe drag race, caricature artist, bull riding, cute baby contest, apple pie contest, demolition derby, Jim Wymore band, pancake breakfast, pedal pull, Bill Riley Talent Show and a teen dance.
- **Dunlap-July 19-24:** Harrison County Fair. Events include livestock shows, talent show, queen/king contest, farm tractor pull, stuffed animal show, table setting contest, lawn tractor pull, apple pie and muffin baking contest, demolition derby, parade, fire truck rides, ATV Mud Drags, continental breakfast, pedal tractor pull, karaoke, music shows, and more!
- **Atlantic-July 21:** Third Thursday Summer Concert Series. Join us in the city park for live entertainment, food, and family fun.
- **Clarinda- July 22-23:** Crazee Days. Sales and bargains at participating businesses throughout town!
- **Glenwood-July 23:** 39th Annual RAGBRAI starting city. Entertainment and vendors on the town square and at the high school.
- **Atlantic-July 24:** 39th Annual RAGBRAI overnight stop. Entertainment and food vendors through out the city.
- **Clarinda- July 26-31:** Page County Fair. Activities include carnival, cherry pie, cupcake auction, Queen & King contest, bull riding, BBQ, Ranch Rodeo, bottle calf show, lamb show, square dancers, ATV races, and western horse show.
- **Atlantic- July 29-Aug. 6:** Cass County Fair. Livestock Shows, teen dance, 4-H exhibits, queen/king contest, pedal tractor races, watermelon feed, ATV Horseshoe Races, Horse fun show, tractor pulls, bull riding, and mud volleyball tournament.
- **Red Oak-July 29 & 30:** Red Oak Crazy Days. Sales and bargains at participating businesses throughout town!
- **Red Oak-August 4:** Arts in the Park night at Fountain Square Park. Farmers Market, entertainment, and food!
- **Carson-Aug 4-6:** Annual Carson Rodeo!
- **Southwest Iowa- August 5/6:** The 12th Annual Iowa Sales Tax Holiday. NO sales tax on qualifying clothing & footwear that is less than \$100.
- **Hastings- August 6:** Hastings Fun Day. Parade at 11 a.m., family events throughout the day, and a street dance to finish in a fun way!
- **Walnut- August 7:** 19th Annual Antique City Car Show. Registration 8 a.m.-12 p.m.; trophy presentations at 4 p.m. Multiple classes with 1st, 2nd, 3rd place awards as well as special awards. Sponsored by the Walnut Optimists.
- **Red Oak-August 11:** Family Fun Night in Fountain Square Park. Farmers Market, Live Entertainment, and Food!
- **Atlantic-August 12:** Nine and Wine event. Come golf 9 holes at Nishna Hills Golf Course with wine and appetizers to sample at each hole. Entertainment with wine and food in the club house at 8:30.
- **Atlantic-August 13:** Atlantic Fest! Entertainment, food, crafts, car show and more!
- **Clarinda- August 12-14:** The Clarinda Summer Musical presentation of "That's So Totally '80s!" A variety show featuring the music, television, movies, and fashion of the '80s. Friday and Saturday night shows at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday Matinee at 2 p.m. For more information call 712-542-4412.
- **Carson:** "Friends of the Theatre" Fundraising Campaign. The Carson Community Club is raising funds to upgrade the projector at Dreamland Theatre. The current projector only plays 35 mm movies, which are being phased out by the movie industry. The upgrade estimates are \$83,320. If you would like more information, or would like to make a donation, please contact Callie Kallsen at 712-484-3967.

Happy Anniversary

To

Karen Mauer

July 19 ~ 12 years

Save the Date

SWIPCO Annual Meeting

Thursday September 15

11:30 a.m.

Shenandoah Historical Society Museum

DATES TO REMEMBER

- RPA Board Meeting Thurs. July 21 at 1:30 p.m. in Red Oak.
- SWIPCO Policy Board meeting Thurs. July 28 at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic.
- SWIHTF Board meeting Tues. Aug. 16 at 10 a.m. in Atlantic
- SWIPCO Policy Board meeting Thurs. Aug. 25 at 1:30 p.m. in Atlantic
- RLF Board Meeting Friday Aug. 26 at 9:30 a.m. in Atlantic

SWIPCO Policy Council

Cass County

Frank Waters

Dave Jones

Fremont County

Brian Kingsolver

Cara Morgan

Harrison County

Gaylord Pitt

Sherman Struble

Mills County

Richard Crouch

Montgomery County

Donna Robinson

Brad Wright

Page County

James Richardson

Byron Harris

Shelby County

James Burmeister

Terry Arentson

Pottawattamie County

Lynn Grobe

At-Large

Dorothy Duran

Clint Fichter

Mike Kolbe

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST NEEDED

Southwest Iowa Planning Council is seeking a full-time Community Development Specialist to assist with community contacts, community development activities, and hazard mitigation planning. The position requires a self-motivated individual with survey techniques, planning principles, and infrastructure knowledge. The right person will possess excellent oral and written communication skills, strong computer skills, and a strong work ethic. Requirements include Bachelors degree in Community and Regional Planning or related field and at least one year experience in a work setting using the skills needed for the position. Interested parties should submit a resume with cover letter and three professional references to Southwest Iowa Planning Council, 1501 SW 7th St., Atlantic, IA, 50022 or swipco@swipco.org by Friday, July 22, 2011.

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Steve Andersen | Transit Director | Ryan Finsel | Community Coordinator | John McCurdy | Community Development |
| Christy Bates | Transit Assistant | Mark Hansen | Fleet Mechanic | Jeremy Middents | Housing Director |
| Crystal Cappel | Finance Director | Sandy Hansen | Housing Specialist | Daurine Petersen | Transit Assistant |
| Kelly Davis | Transit Coordinator | Courtney Harter | Community Development | Dave Riedemann | Housing Programs Administrator |
| Tammy DeBord | Administrative Assistant | Karen Mauer | Finance Manager | Teresa Wright | Transit Assistant |
| | | Eric Weinkoetz | Executive Director | | |

